

My trap records indicate that here the species is essentially a July/August moth, and this is corroborated by C. Plant (*Larger Moths of the London area*, 1993), whereas for England and Wales in general B. Skinner (*Moths of the British Isles*, 1984) gives June/July. Of the 94 specimens recorded, 66 were in July, 25 in August, 2 in June (29.vi.1982 and 29.vi.1984) and one in September.— B.K. WEST, 36 Briar Road, Dartford, Kent DA5 2HN.

### Two highly notable beetles in West Kent in the 1960s

Mr Keith C. Lewis, of Welling, a coleopterist with whom I have lately corresponded, has informed me (*in litt.*) of certain remarkable captures made by himself in West Kent, of which two in particular call for publication and comment.

*Panagaeus cruxmajor* (L.): Shoreham, 16.viii.67, one example found in a stump “at the bottom of a deep slope; the field was very wet, with Marsh Orchids (*Dactylorhiza incarnata*)”, pointing to a long-established swampy area, though “some years later the field was bone dry and the Orchids gone”. This handsome Carabid, in contrast to its less rare congener *P. bipustulatus* (F.), is confined to marshy habitats. There is but one record listed in the Victoria County History of Kent (1908: 126), namely Shooters Hill, in the same vice-county but much farther north-west. The Shoreham record appears to be the last for Kent, though for earlier times Fowler (1887, *Col.Brit.Isl.* 1: 28) gives Sandgate and Hythe in the eastern vice-county — accidentally omitted, it seems, from the VCH list. *P. cruxmajor* has become much scarcer as a British species since the mid-century.

*Staphylinus caesareus* Ced.: Joydens Wood, Bexley, one under a birch log, 18.vi.64, identified by Mr H.R. Last and confirmed by myself; never found again despite very many visits to the locality. This species comes very close to the far more frequent *S. dimidiaticornis* Gem. & Har., which was for long mistaken for it in this country, and there are so far very few published records of the true *S. caesareus* in Britain. The present one would seem to be the first not only for Kent but also for eastern England. It is true, of course, that the old Kent records under the name of *caesareus*, though probably all relating to *dimidiaticornis*, ought to be checked where possible. I have never found even the latter species in the county.

I am obliged to Mr Lewis for permission to publish these interesting captures.— A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.

### First Kentish record of *Phyllonorycter insignitella* Zeller (Lep.: Gracillariidae)

On 15th September 1984, whilst searching amongst clover on north sloping ground adjacent to the sea near Herne Bay, Kent, for mines of *Parectopa ononidis* Zell. (which were plentiful) I examined a mined leaf only to discover the underside also contained a *Phyllonorycter* mine. Further inspection revealed the presence of mined leaves in relative abundance.

I decided to leave the mines to mature and adverse weather delayed a revisit until 6th October when I collected a good number of mines, which